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WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT

R E P O R T

- of the -

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the Year

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Annual Re

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WHITCHURCH URBAN DISTRICT.

R E P O R T of the Medical Officer of Health for the Year 1925.  
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The Annual Report for 1925 is, by direction of the Ministry of Health, to be a Survey Report. A Survey Report is called for at intervals of five years, and differs from the intervening modified Annual Reports in dealing more comprehensively with important changes in the public health services during the period, and generally as to the progress of improvement of the public health.

NATURAL and SOCIAL CONDITIONS of the AREA.

Area (Acres). 4783.

Population (Census 1921). 5653. (Estimated 1925) 5576.

The population showed an increase of 536 persons at the Census 1911 over that of 1901. The Census of 1921 showed a small decrease, of 104 persons, in the ten years 1911-21.

The Urban District lies within the northern border of the County, and comprises a considerable area of agricultural land surrounding the town of Whitchurch. The general elevation varies from about 270 feet to 350 feet above Ordnance Datum. The subsoil is the red marl of the now red sandstone. The town occupies the centre and higher part of the District, the fall of the ground being from south and east to west and north-west, and the natural drainage by small brooks leaving the District towards the north-west, as tributaries of the Dee. The centre of the town is old and compact, considerable extensions of more recent buildings existing along some of the main roads radiating from the town. The surrounding parts of the District are entirely rural and agricultural, extending some two or three miles to the north-east and south-west of the town and to about a mile to north-west and south-east. Whitchurch is a market and residential town, and the land around is extensively employed for grazing and dairy farming. It is the centre and market of a large cheese making industry. There is a brewery, maltings, engineering works, a steam laundry and a creamery. A Secondary School for girls has been erected in the town by the County Council.

Number of inhabited houses (1921). 1326.

Number of families or separate occupiers (1921). 1377.

Rateable Value. £37,258.

Sum represented by a penny rate. £122.

|               | <u>Total.</u> | <u>M.</u> | <u>F.</u> |                    |
|---------------|---------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
|               | 86            | 49        | 37        |                    |
| (Legitimate   |               |           | 40        | )                  |
| Births. (     |               |           |           | ) Birth Rate. 15.9 |
| (Illegitimate | 3             | -         | 3         | )                  |
| Deaths.       | 82            | 39        | 43        | Death Rate. 14.7   |

Number of women dying in consequence of Childbirth:-

From sepsis nil : from other causes nil.

Deaths of infants under one year per 1,000 births:-

Legitimate 58 : Illegitimate nil; Total 56.



Deaths from Measles (all ages) nil.

" " Whooping Cough (all ages) nil.

" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) nil.

|                                    | 1925.                  |                             |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                    | <u>Whitchurch U.D.</u> | <u>England &amp; Wales.</u> |
| Birth rate per 1,000 of population | 15.9                   | 18.3                        |
| Death rate " " " "                 | 14.7                   | 12.2                        |
| Infant death rate per 1,000 born   | 56.                    | 75.                         |

The birth rate was below the District's average.

The death rate was slightly above the average. No death was due to Measles, Whooping Cough, Scarlet fever or Diphtheria. Influenza caused 6 deaths, Enteric fever 1, Pulmonary tuberculosis 3, other tuberculous disease 1, Cancer 9, pneumonia 6.

The infant death rate was again a comparatively low figure.

The following table gives comparative average rates for the past five years:-

|                                    | 1921-25.               |                             |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                                    | <u>Whitchurch U.D.</u> | <u>England &amp; Wales.</u> |
| Birth rate per 1,000 of population | 17.4                   | 21.4                        |
| Death " " " "                      | 13.9                   | 12.2                        |
| Infant death rate per 1,000 born   | 45.                    | 77.                         |

The great reduction in the infant death rate, since 1914, coincides with the establishment of the Maternity & Child Welfare in the town by a Voluntary association, which has done continued excellent work as one of the County Welfare Centres, supervised and provided with medical and health visitor service by the County Council. Previous rates were:- 1901-06, 103; 1907-14, 104; 1915-19, 82.

The attendances during the year were:-

|                      | <u>Cases.</u> | <u>Total attendances.</u> |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Infants under 1 year | 99            | 840                       |
| Infants 1 to 5 years | 143           | 1096                      |
| Expectant mothers    | 15            | 66                        |

#### HEALTH SERVICES IN THE DISTRICT.

Hospitals: Tuberculosis. Shirlett Sanatorium for early cases. Prees Heath Sanatorium for advanced cases. Shropshire Orthopaedic Hospital for surgical cases.

Children. County Council's Babies Home at Wellington.

Smallpox. The County Smallpox Hospitals at Ludlow and Wellington.

There is no Fever Hospital at present. The Council on my advice decided to accept the terms of the Shrewsbury & Atcham Joint Hospital Board for admission of cases, where necessary, to the Hospital at Shrewsbury.

Ambulance. The County Council's motor ambulance is available for infectious and other cases.



Clinics and Treatment Centres. There is a County Council Child Welfare Centre and School Clinic in the District. The County Dispensaries for Tuberculosis and Venereal Diseases at Shrewsbury are available for the District. There is a tuberculosis examination centre open once a month in Whitchurch. During the year 24 cases attended for the first time and the total attendance was 158.

Public Health Officers. The Medical Officer of Health who is also M.O.H. for the S.W. Salop Combined Districts. The Sanitary Inspector who is also Surveyor and Water Works Engineer to the Council, and a whole time Officer. An Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

Contributions to the salary of the M.O.H. and S.I. are received from Exchequer Grant.

Nursing Arrangements, etc. Nursing: General. By the District nurse of the local Nursing Association which is affiliated to the Shropshire Nursing Association.

Infectious Disease. The County Council provides for Health Visiting and nursing assistance where necessary for Measles, Whooping Cough and pneumonia in the case of children under 5 years of age, and for cases of Ophthalmia neonatorum.

Midwives. The District Council does not employ or subsidise midwives. The number practising in the District is 3.

#### ADOPTIVE ACTS, etc. in force in the District.

Acts: Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1890, Part III.  
Infectious Disease (Prevention) Act 1890, - except Sections 5, 6, 15, 17.  
Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act 1907, Parts 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8.

Bye-laws: Nuisances.  
New Streets and Buildings.  
Slaughterhouses, including new bye-laws adopted during 1923 for the better control and slaughter of animals.  
Common Lodging Houses.  
Tents, Vans, etc., used as habitations.

Regulations: Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the AREA.

Water Supply. The system is a public supply from the Council's Water Works at Fenn's Bank, situate at the south-west border of the District and some two and a half miles from the town. The water is from wells, collected at a pumping station, where it is softened by lime treatment to a hardness of some 7 degrees and pumped to a reservoir on higher ground. The supply is constant and adequate in amount. The number of houses supplied, either laid on or by stand pipes, is 1364. The number of new houses connected to the supply within the past 5 years was 108. A new suction gas power plant was installed in 1921. The Surveyor reports that new water mains were laid last year in Bridgewater Street, Brook Road, and Black Park Road, where new building operations are in progress.

As regards quality, a bacteriological examination made in February last year showed an unsatisfactory condition, both as to total number of bacteria found, and presence of organisms indicative of sewage contamination. A special investigation was made, and I presented a Special Report to the Council on February 18th of last year. Briefly summarised, the original supply was from a number of shallow wells sunk in pasture land to a depth of eight feet, and interconnected. With the growth of



the town more shallow wells were added, and more recently six bore tubes have been sunk from time to time to increase the supply. The supply is thus very complex in origin, from some 13 shallow wells spread over an area of pasture land and from six bore holes on adjacent higher ground. Investigation showed further that possibilities existed of pollution of the surface and subsoil of the shallow well area by the existence of a shallow watercourse intersecting the lines of wells, receiving farm yard drainage, and liable to flood over parts of the area at times of heavy rain and overflow. It was found also that insufficient protection was afforded to the shallow wells under these conditions.

The recommendations I made were in general that the whole of the shallow wells, where constructed of dry brickwork, should be reconstructed in water tight material to a depth of six feet at least and the watertight structure brought up well above ground level. Also that the Council should obtain such control of the well meadows as to be able to regulate their use, to prevent manuring, and to divert safely all drainage at present reaching them or the watercourse running through them.

I also advised immediate arrangements being made to chlorinate the whole supply, having in view the bacteriological condition of the water and the length of time that would be required to make effective the protection<sup>ye</sup> steps necessary. A chlorinating plant was at once installed and came into action on March 11th., the chlorine being added on the suction side of the pump delivering the water from the collecting well to the softening tanks. The amount of chlorine was graded by periodical bacteriological observation of the water and finally stabilised at 0.93 parts per million, which amount gave quite satisfactory results in bacterial freedom, and has not been found to affect the character and palatability of the water.

Two drains from farm premises have been diverted in order to protect the supply and the other protective measures advised have been under consideration.

Finally I would suggest that the Council would be well advised to engage expert advice as to the practicability of simplifying the supply system, as for instance to ascertain the feasibility of obtaining an adequate supply from a deepening of one or more of the bore holes.

Rainfall in 1925. The gauge kept by the Surveyor at the Water works recorded 29.22 inches of rain, 176 days showing a fall of .01 inch or more.

Stream Pollution. Serious pollution of the Mile Bank Brook by washings and sewerage from the United Dairies Creamery has occurred during the past five years and been the subject of Statutory proceedings and of Official Enquiry. The Company concerned has done much to cut off and treat the factory sewage and waste. The Surveyor reports that during last year slight pollution occurred occasionally, but action under the River's Pollution Prevention Act has not been found necessary.

Sewerage and Drainage. The town is well sewered and drainage of individual houses is adequate in all parts. The outfall works are at some distance from the town. The following note supplied by the Surveyor describes steps recently taken for disposal of the sewage:-

"The agreement for the disposal of the Sewage on Hadley Farm terminating in 1924, and the Owner and Tenant of the Farm not being wishful to continue with the disposal of the sewage, the Council decided to purchase, for £2000, 20 $\frac{1}{4}$  acres of land below the Sewage Carrier which adjoins the Rising Sun Farm. The Rising Sun land was purchased by the Council in 1920. The settling tanks are on one of the fields newly purchased and the Council will now have control over the whole of the disposal of the sewage delivered at the Hadley outfall. The land is light and absorbent and, with the Rising Sun land, should be capable of dealing with the Town Sewage for some considerable time. The land drains are being cleared, the open carriers cleaned out and the land thoroughly cleaned and put into good condition. The recently purchased

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land has been added to the Rising Sun and the whole is now under the Tenant's charge and control, making a Holding of about 60 acres in extent.

Three lengths of new Sewers have been laid, one in the Tarporley Road new building plots and the second from Egerton Road to Black Park to drain sixteen houses under the Subsidy Scheme, the Town Football Club Pavilion etc., two houses and two Wholesale Petroleum Depots. The third extension is in the Alkington Road to new houses etc., recently erected."

Closet Accommodation. The conversion of privies to W.C's has been systematically followed up in recent years within the sewered area, and very few privies remain in the town. During the past five years some 50 privies have been converted or abolished.

The Surveyor's return gives:-

|                              |    |      |
|------------------------------|----|------|
| Approximate number of W.C's. | .. | 1358 |
|------------------------------|----|------|

|                                                                            |                                  |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
| Number of W.C's fixed in new houses and other premises during the year 33. | W.C's fixed in the last 5 years. | 193 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|

|                                                    |     |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Approximate number of privies outside sewered area | 145 |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----|

Scavenging. In the removal and disposal of house refuse, and cleansing of earth closets and privies, the refuse is collected every week by the Council's employees and carts from the houses and taken to the Tips, of which there are, one situated at the junction of L.M.S. & G.W. railway lines, 450 yards from any dwelling house and one off Liverpool Road 500 yards from any dwelling house.

|                           |      |                         |      |
|---------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|
| Number of galvanised bins | 828. | Covered boxes and pails | 602. |
|---------------------------|------|-------------------------|------|

All old ash pits have been demolished in the Town proper and galvanised iron bins provided; 58 in the last five years.

Smoke Abatement. No action taken, or found necessary.

Common Lodging Houses. There are two on the Register. They are frequently inspected and are kept clean and well conducted.

Schools. Water from the Town main is laid on to all the schools, and drains connected to Council sewer; all are satisfactory.

The following is an Account furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, of Sanitary Work for the Year.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |   |   |     |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| Number of houses which have been inspected during the above period, either in connection with outbreaks of infectious disease, or in consequence of complaints, or in the course of a systematic Sanitary Survey (Including inspections under Housing, Town Planning Act). | - | - | 541 |
| Other inspections, Yards, Stables, Schools                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | - | - | 120 |
| Number of legal notices sent                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | - | - | 8   |
| Number of informal notices sent                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | - | - | 142 |
| Number of such notices complied with                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | - | - | 150 |
| Number of letters written                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | - | - | 27  |

PARTICULARS OF SANITARY MATTERS REFERRED TO IN THE ABOVE NOTICES:

|                                                                                                   |    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| (a) Houses to be disinfected after Infectious Disease                                             | 14 |
| (b) Deficient or objectionable water supply (defective pipes and fittings)                        | 40 |
| (c) New drains to be constructed or old drains to be amended                                      | 36 |
| (d) New closets to be provided or old ones to be amended in construction                          | 42 |
| (e) Houses damp or dirty, or admitting rain, or weather, or otherwise in a bad sanitary condition | 32 |



|                                                                                                                            |   |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|----------|
| (f) Offensive accumulations of all kinds                                                                                   | - | 9        |
| (g) Animals so kept as to be a nuisance                                                                                    | - | 3        |
| (h) Houses overcrowded                                                                                                     | - | 1        |
| Defective guttering and spouting 10, chimneys 4, walls 8, paving 6, doors, windows and stairs 10.                          | - | 38       |
| Houses disinfected after infectious disease (other than phthisis)                                                          |   | 11       |
| Houses disinfected in cases of phthisis                                                                                    | - | 3        |
| Privies converted to water closets<br>(1 privy demolished, new W.C. erected)                                               | - | 6        |
| Privies converted to earth closets                                                                                         | - | -        |
| Plans for new houses passed<br>(23 additions to house, 2 garage, workshops 5, Club pavilion 1, bakehouse 1, other plans 9. | - | 41       |
| Certificates issued for water supply to new houses                                                                         | - | 23       |
| Houses connected to public water supply                                                                                    | - | 23       |
| Houses connected to public sewerage                                                                                        | - | 22       |
| Lengths of new sewers laid (Black Park Road)                                                                               | - | 347 yds. |
| Lengths of new water mains laid (Black Park Road)                                                                          | - | 348 yds. |

Proceedings before Magistrates: One, as to three premises in Talbot Street. Fine imposed 12/6d. defects to be made good within 3 months.

M. W. SOWDEN.

Inspector of Nuisances.

#### HOUSING.

General housing conditions. Housing may be said to be generally adequate in amount. With the increase of population building went on very steadily during the twenty years up to the War, new streets of artisan dwellings of good type, and of small villas being developed, well spaced out. Since 1919 building has again progressed. The Surveyor reports that 108 houses have been erected during the past 5 years. Of these the Council has built 48 under the Housing Acts. Such shortage as exists would appear to be in good houses at rentals within the means of the small wage earners.

Overcrowding of any serious degree is not often met with. Fourteen cases have been dealt with by the Inspector's notices within the past 5 years.

As regards fitness for habitation of houses, while much of the housing is of good modern class there remain some streets and 'yards' in the centre of the old town where many of the houses are below standard owing to defective air space, or to structural deficiencies and decay. This class of property is kept under repeated review in the housing inspection, and action is taken by the Inspector to maintain such property in habitable repair, as shown in his return of sanitary work for the year, and in the Housing return which follows.



Number of new houses erected during the year:-

|                                                   |   |   |    |
|---------------------------------------------------|---|---|----|
| (a) Total                                         | - | - | 23 |
| (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts: |   |   |    |
| (i) By the Local Authority                        | - | - | 6  |
| (ii) By other bodies or persons                   | - | - | 11 |

1. Unfit dwelling houses.

|                                                                                                                                                                              |     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Inspection - (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)                                                         | 541 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910, or the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925. | 57  |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation                                                 | -   |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation           | 15  |

2. Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.

|                                                                                                                              |   |   |   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers. | - | - | 7 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|---|

3. Action under Statutory Powers.

A.- Proceedings under section 3 of the Housing Act 1925.

|                                                                                                                                                |   |   |    |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs                                                        | - | - | 8  |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:-                                                                                        |   |   |    |
| (a) by owners                                                                                                                                  | - | - | 15 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners                                                                                                    | - | - | -  |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close | - | - | -  |

B.- Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

|                                                                                                        |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied | 145 |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:                                          |     |
| (a) by owners                                                                                          | 145 |
| (b) by Local Authority in default of owners                                                            | -   |

C.- Proceedings under sections 11, 14, & 15, of the Housing Act, 1925.

|                                                                                                                                |   |   |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| (1) Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders                                                 | - | - | Nil |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made                                                     | - | - | "   |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been rendered fit | - | - | "   |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made                                                  | - | - | "   |
| (5) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders                                                     | - | - | "   |



# INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

## Inspection of Dairies, Cowsheds, and Milkshops for the Year.

|                                                        |   |   |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------|---|---|-----|
| Number of cowkeepers and milksellers on register.      |   |   |     |
| Retail purveyors 14, Wholesale traders & producers 27. |   |   | 41  |
| Number of premises - cowsheds                          | - | - | 60  |
| dairies                                                | - | - | 39  |
| milkshops                                              | - | - | 2   |
| Number of inspections                                  | - | - | 164 |
| Defects found (1) in cowsheds -                        |   |   |     |
| (a) floor or cubic space                               | - | - | -   |
| (b) ventilation                                        | - | - | -   |
| (c) lighting                                           | - | - | -   |
| (d) structure of floor                                 | - | - | -   |
| (e) drainage                                           | - | - | 1   |
| (f) cleanliness                                        | - | - | 5   |
| (2) in surroundings of cowsheds                        | - | - | 6   |
| (3) in sanitary condition of drains                    | - | - | 1   |
| (4) in sanitary condition of milkshops                 | - | - | -   |
| (5) in water supply                                    | - | - | -   |
| Number of notices - verbal and written                 | - | - | 9   |
| Number of those notices complied with                  | - | - | 9   |
| Number of defects found and not yet remedied           | - | - | -   |

M. W. Souden.

Inspector of Nuisances.

Action taken as to tuberculous milk or tuberculous cattle. A cow which had just calved was found suffering from Tuberculous of the udder, in the stock of a Dairyman. On veterinary inspection the animal was at once slaughtered. No milk had been sold from the cow.

No licences were granted for sale of milk under special designations.

No refusals or revocations of registration of retailers were necessary.

Meat. Notice is given by all butchers as to time of slaughter and the meat is inspected by Sanitary Inspector at such times.

No arrangements for marking meat have been made.

Administration of P.H. (Meat) Regulations 1924, as regards stalls, shops, stores and vehicles.

Statutory Rules & Orders No. 1432 were supplied to all butchers, shops and stores, and the regulations are carried out satisfactorily.

No. of private slaughterhouses in use.

|            | <u>In 1920.</u> | <u>In Jan. 1925.</u> | <u>In Dec. 1925.</u> |
|------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Registered | 2               | 2                    | 2                    |
| Licensed   | 5               | 6                    | 6                    |
| Total      | 7               | 8                    | 8                    |



The Humane Killer was used in all the slaughterhouses. No carcasses or parts were found Tuberculous or otherwise unsound.

The Horse Slaughtering premises in the Chester Road have now been permanently closed. All dead animals have now to be conveyed to Malpas.

Other Foods. Unsound food inspection. Action taken. 2 tins herring in tomato, 2 large tins of sardines, 1 tin salmon, 8 large tins tomatoes, 1 large tin jam, 1 tin lobster, 1 tin fruit salad, 1 large tin ox-tongue, 4 tins loganberries, 4 tins pears, 3 tins pineapple chunks, 1 large tin apricots. These were condemned and destroyed.

Bakehouses. Eleven on register. They are regularly inspected. Three required limewashing and the defects were at once made good. All the others are in a clean and good condition.

Other places where food is prepared. Are regularly inspected and kept in good sanitary condition.

#### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Laboratory Work. The County Council provides for bacteriological examination in cases of Diphtheria, Enteric and Tuberculosis, by arrangement with Birmingham University, free of cost.

Diphtheria antitoxin is supplied by the District Council, free of cost to cases of the poorer class, through the Surveyor who holds a stock and supplies medical men upon request. Antitoxin is in general use in all but very slight cases. In accordance with the recommendations of the Ministry of Health's Memorandum of July, 1922, the Surveyor was authorised to hold and supply antitoxin in phials of 8,000 units for treatment, and of 500 units for protective purposes.

The following table gives the incidence of the chief notifiable infectious diseases during the past 5 years.

|       | Scarlet fever. |         | Diphtheria. |         | Enteric<br>(Paratyphoid B.) |         | Acute<br>Polio-myelitis. |         |
|-------|----------------|---------|-------------|---------|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------------|---------|
|       | Cases.         | Deaths. | Cases.      | Deaths. | Cases.                      | Deaths. | Cases.                   | Deaths. |
| 1921  | 1              | -       | 24          | -       | -                           | -       | -                        | -       |
| 22    | 9              | -       | 8           | -       | -                           | -       | -                        | -       |
| 23    | 1              | -       | 21          | -       | 2                           | -       | -                        | -       |
| 24    | 9              | -       | 54          | -       | 1                           | -       | 1                        | 1       |
| 25    | 1              | -       | 5           | -       | 3                           | 1       | -                        | -       |
| Total | 21             | -       | 112         | -       | 6                           | 1       | 1                        | 1       |

Scarlet Fever, has shown little incidence.

Diphtheria, if not endemic in the District, has shown a tendency to outbreaks of greater or less extent at intervals of from 3 to 5 years over a considerable period. In 1924 fifty-four cases came to light. School attendance and 'Carrier' cases were evident factors in spread of infection. At one school ten cases were discovered by swabbing of suspects, four at least of whom were 'Carriers' showing no symptoms of illness. Free use was made of antitoxin and of bacteriological examination. A few cases of infection protracted for from two to three months were experienced. The generally mild character of the disease is shown by the fact that among 112 cases there was no death.



Enteric. Six cases of Paratyphoid B. type have occurred. Of the three cases occurring last year, one was notified in March. The second case, notified in August, appeared to be one of imported infection the patient returning home from a visit of 24 days duration, and 3 days before the onset of her illness. This case was fatal. The third case was contracted from this one, the patient having assisted in the nursing and being infected before the previous case was diagnosed.

Notifiable Diseases during the Year.

| Disease                               | Total cases notified. | Cases admitted to hospital. | Total Deaths. |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Small-pox                             | -                     | -                           | -             |
| Scarlet fever                         | 1                     | -                           | -             |
| Diphthoria                            | 5                     | -                           | -             |
| Enteric fever (including Paratyphoid) | 3                     | -                           | 1             |
| Puerperal fever                       | -                     | -                           | -             |
| Pneumonia                             | -                     | -                           | 6             |
| Erysipelas                            | 2                     | -                           | -             |

Tuberculosis.

| Age-Periods.   | New Cases. |    |                |    | Deaths.    |    |                |    |
|----------------|------------|----|----------------|----|------------|----|----------------|----|
|                | Pulmonary. |    | Non-Pulmonary. |    | Pulmonary. |    | Non-Pulmonary. |    |
|                | M.         | F. | M.             | F. | M.         | F. | M.             | F. |
| 0              | -          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 1              | -          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 5              | -          | 1  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 10             | -          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 15             | -          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 20             | -          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | 1  |
| 25             | -          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 35             | 1          | -  | -              | -  | -          | 1  | -              | -  |
| 45             | 1          | 1  | -              | -  | 1          | 1  | -              | -  |
| 55             | 1          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| 65 and upwards | -          | -  | -              | -  | -          | -  | -              | -  |
| Totals         | 3          | 2  | -              | -  | 1          | 2  | -              | 1  |

| Ophthalmia Neonatorum. | Cases    |          |              | Vision un-impaired. | Vision im-paired. | Total Blindness. | Deaths. |
|------------------------|----------|----------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------|
|                        | Notified | Treated  |              |                     |                   |                  |         |
|                        |          | At home. | In Hospital. |                     |                   |                  |         |
|                        | 2        | 2        | -            | 2                   | -                 | -                | -       |

M. GEPP.

27th November, 1926.

Medical Officer of Health

